MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

8 MAY 1986

Iran-Iraq War

IRNA reported that the 7 May Iraqi air raid over southern Tehran "slightly damaged" an oil installation, killing five persons and injuring a number of others. A second Iraqi attempt to violate Tehran's airspace was repulsed by anti-aircraft fire, the agency said. For Iraq's part, a communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio asserted that the oil refineries in southern Tehran were reduced to a "pile of junk" during the raid. Other Iraqi air strikes on Marivan, Khoy, and Baneh killed 3 civilians and wounded 20 others, according to a communique reported by IRNA. An Iranian military spokesman condemned Iraq's "crimes against residential areas" and warned of Iranian retaliation, IRNA reported.

On the other hand, an Iraqi military spokesman cited by INA rebutted Iran's claims of Iraqi bombardments of Iranian residential areas in Marivan and Baneh, terming them "pure, baseless lies," and cautioned Iran against any "reckless" action. A communique carried by Voice of the Masses radio reported Iraqi air strikes against military camps in Marivan, Musak, and Baneh, and against a "strategic" bridge in Qaflan Kuh. In a statement published in the 8 May Baghdad *AL-THAWRAH* reported by INA, the Iraqi Air Force commander said the attack on the southern Tehran oil installation was an example of the Air Force's pledge to destroy all planned targets and warned that the "coming days" will prove Iraq's ability and its "insistence" on destroying "distant and near" Iranian targets until the war is ended.

In other action, Iraq's IV Army Corps commander declared that a 2 May Iranian attempt to regain territory lost to Iraq in the Fakkeh area "failed miserably," in a news conference reported by INA. On the Iranian side, a military report stated that Iranian artillery fire inflicted "heavy damage" on a power station north of Basra and the Zubayr oil installations in southern Iraq, IRNA reported.

In another attack on shipping, Iraqi warplanes hit a "large maritime target" off the Iranian coast 8 May, an Iraqi spokesman announced in a statement reported by INA. Meanwhile, the Manama *GULF DAILY NEWS* alleged that two Iranian helicopters fired missiles at a Saudi oil tanker off Qatar 7 May, causing a fire although its captain later reported the situation "under control."

Syria

A Damascus radio commentary condemned President Reagan's "reckless words" against Syria and urged the world nations to "curb the policy of piracy, threat of war, saber-rattling, organized official terrorism, and lawlessness which is pursued by the United States." The radio affirmed that Syria opposes terrorism while the United States and Israel are engaged in "organized state terrorism." Syria is determined to defend itself against any "aggressor," the radio said, and no amount of "pressure and blackmail" will force it to abandon its political objectives.

The radio also broadcast a statement by the Syrian Embassy in East Berlin denying any connection with "any explosion" in West Berlin. The statement condemned "lies and allegations" that the embassy provided explosives used for the 29 March bombing of the Arab-German Friendship Society in West Berlin.

As for recent bombings inside Syria, an official source cited by SANA accused Iraq of training, financing, and sending the groups which bombed public transport vehicles 16 April, killing 144 citizens and injuring 149 others. Security forces have arrested all the criminals responsible for this "despicable, ugly crime," and they have confessed to the Iraqi regime's involvement, the Syrian official added.

Libya

The Foreign Liaison Bureau told Arab ambassadors in Tripoli that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz's recent statements on Libya constitute a "new threat" against the Jamahiriyah, Tripoli radio reported.
Commenting on the U.S. Senate's vote against supplying arms to Saudi Arabia, JANA maintained that the Reagan administration has dealt another "severe blow" to those Arab rulers who "pant after it and lick its boots."

Sudan

In military developments in the south, a Sudanese military source cited by SUNA claimed that Rumbek was recaptured from SPLA forces 7 May following a long siege. In his first speech to the Constituent Assembly as prime minister, Al-Sadiq al-Mahdi "pledged" that his government's "first" task will be to prepare for a "National Constitutional Conference" to find a solution to the southern question, SUNA reported, and he also declared his willingness to reciprocate an offer of friendship made by Ethiopian leader Colonel Mengistu.

Lebanon

President Amin al-Jumayyil reportedly met with Fatah's Salah Khalaf 7 May in Tunisia, according to an "informed" source cited by Radio Monte Carlo, who added that the discussion centered on the security situation in the Palestinian camps in Lebanon.

AFP reported the kidnapping in West Beirut of an 84-year-old Frenchman and his wife, who was later released, while "informed" sources cited in a later clandestine Radio Free Lebanon report blamed Syria and described it as an attempt to "blackmail" France. In other developments, Voice of Lebanon radio reported "extreme tension" in Ba'labakk following clashes there between Syrian forces and Hizballah members.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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Najibullah Promises Stronger Ties With USSR

BK080914 Hong Kong AFP in English 0859 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] Islamabad, May 8 (AFP) — Afghanistan's new strongman, Major-General Najibullah, on Thursday held his first meetings with the country's military and government officials after replacing President Babrak Karmal four days ago, and promised that ties with the Soviet Union would be strengthened further, Kabul Radio reported. According to the radio, monitored here, he explained the circumstances in which he took over the leadership of the ruling Communist Party after Babrak Karmal "resigned" because of failing health.

Mr Najibullah also told the military leaders and party officials of efforts to find a political solution to the Afghan problem. Foreign ministers of Pakistan and Afghanistan are currently holding talks in Geneva under the auspices of the United Nations intermediary Diego Cordovez on a possible time frame for a Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan. He discussed Afghanistan's friendly relations with the Soviet Union and pledged that the "Fraternal ties" between the two would be further strengthened, the radio said. "Afghanistan's borders will remain open for friends, but it will be made difficult for our enemies to penetrate," he warned in an apparent reference to outside help for Afghan rebels fighting the pro-Soviet Kabul regime since Soviet troops invaded Afghanistan in December 1979.

Mr Najibullah also held a separate meeting with some 400 elders of the country's border tribes, the radio said, and reassured them that the Farsi-speaking northern ethnic groups would be treated like "brothers".

Addresses Tribal Chiefs 7 May

LD072214 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1530 GMT 7 May 86

[Excerpts] At 0930 today in Store Palace Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, received the chiefs of the independent tribes. At the start of the meeting the tribal chiefs presented bunches of flowers and congratulated Comrade Najib on his election as general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee. Four hundred chiefs and elders of the Mamo, Salarzai, [words indistinct] Moshwani, Afridi, Shenwar, Urokzai, Bara Chamkani, Teri, Waziri, and Mas'ud tribes took part in the meeting.

Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, told those attending the meeting about his election to this post. Comrade Najib added: The 18th PDPA Central Committee Plenum was convened on 4 May. The plenum considered and assessed the proposal of Comrade Babrak Karmal concerning his resignation from the post of general secretary of the party. The plenum unanimously accepted the proposal. Comrade Najib referred to the consolidation of the people's sovereignty in the DRA, and said: In light of the 10 Theses and the resolution of the extraordinary session of the Revolutionary Council, the representatives of the classes, nationalities, tribes, and clans of the country, in a broad and practical manner, took part in political power.

The general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee then spoke about the need for the restoration of peace in the country nationwide and spoke in detail about the normalization of the situation in revolutionary Afghanistan, as well as defense of the prestige and international credibility of the DRA.

Comrade Najib emphasized the need for further consolidation of the unbreakable Afghan-Soviet friendship as an internationalist principle, and he gave thanks for the all-round and (?generous) assistance of this great neighbor and great friend of the people of Afghanistan. Comrade Najib said the borders of our country are always open to our friends and will be closed to our enemy. He asked the tribal chiefs to maintain their vigilance and [words indistinct] concerning defense and support for their ancestral land, Afghanistan, and to (?work) for defense of the independence, national sovereignty, and territorial integrity of the DRA.

Emphasizing the principle of fraternity and equality of the fraternal nationalities, tribes, and clans Comrade Najib said: We forge ahead toward a proud and honorable Afghanistan, towards the construction of a homeland in which all the people live as brothers. Comrade Najib continued: The duties of the party and the government are becoming enormously heavy and the Pashtun nationality, as an elder brother, must feel much responsibility toward the fraternal Tajik, Hazara, Uzbek, Turkman, Baluch, Nuristani, and Pasha'i nationalities.

During his speech and at the end of it the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee was greeted with continuous applause from those attending the jirga. [as heard] At the end of this meeting Mowlawi Habibollah said a prayer for further victories for Comrade Najib as general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, and good health for Comrade Babrak Karmal.

Najibullah Receives Internal Affairs Ministry Group

LD071902 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, today received the consultative and leadership delegations, and generals of the DRA Ministry of Internal Affairs in his office. In his all-round speech regarding the international and domestic situation, and further explaining the decisions of the 18th PDPA Central Committee Plenum, Comrade Najib drew the attention of the leadership delegation of the Ministry of Internal Affairs to the execution of their revolutionary duties in the restoration of the country's security.

At the end of this meeting, Sayyed Muhammad Gulabzoy, minister of internal affairs, expressed gratitude for receiving the leadership delegation of the Ministry of Internal Affairs on behalf of the officers, NCO's, and men of the units and companies of Sarandoy. On behalf of the personnel of this ministry, he assured that no sacrifice would be spared in realizing the resolutions of PDPA Central Committee's plenums, in particular 18th Plenum under the leadership of the PDPA and guidance of Comrade Najib, and will continue the struggle with heroism.

Najibullah Receives Messages of Congratulations

GDR's Honecker

LD071815 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] The following congratulatory message from Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee arrived in Kabul on the occasion of the election of Comrade Najib as general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee: Dear Comrade Najib: On behalf of the SED Central Committee and myself, I express my heartful congratulations on the occasion of your election as general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee. Dear Comrade Najib, allow me to wish you victory, creative energy, and good health in your duty as general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee. With comradely greetings,

Erich Honecker, General Secretary of the SED Central Committee

CSSR's Husak

LD071657 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, met Vaclav Kouba, ambassador and extraordinary representative of the CSSR this afternoon in the Headquarters of the Central Committee. At this meeting, Vaclav Kouba presented to Cormade Najib a congratulatory message from Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CSSR Communist Party Central Committee, on the occasion of Comrade Najib's election as general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee. This message says: Dear Comrade: On behalf of the CSSR CP Central Committee and myself, I present my most sincere congratulations on the occasion of your election as general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee. Your election to this high position represents your [words indistinct] services, and demonstrates the trust and authority enjoyed by you the party members and your country's people.

The CSSR Communist Party highly assesses the PDPA's efforts realizing the duties of the April Revolution and expresses all-round support for your people's struggle to achieve a new life and a just social order. We believe that the traditional friendly relations and comradely cooperation between the parties and our states are forging ahead on the path of growth and further consolidation in the interest of the people of the two friendly countries. We wish you further and constructive energy as well as further successes in work for the tranquillity of your country's people and in your effort for peace, social duties, and progress [wordsindistinct].

[Signed] Gustav Husak, General Secretary of the Communist Party Central Committee of Czechoslovakia, 6 May 1986

Capture of Rebel Leader in Jowzjan Reported

LD071703 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Quoting a security source in Jowzjan province, BAKHTAR reports that as a result of a successful operation by the country's security forces recently a ringleader of the criminal band of Jamiyat-e Eslami, Abdul Satar, son of [name indistinct], inhabitant of the provincial capital of Shabarghan who was engaged in a variety of crimes of terrorism, kidnapping, and subversion, was captured along with three other criminal accomplices, weapons, and a quantity of anti-state propaganda leaflets.

Rebels Consider Provisional Government for UN Seat

AU071045 Rome ANSA in English 1043 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] (ANSA) Rome, May 7 — Afghan resistance forces are considering setting up a provisional government in order to request a seat at the United Nations, (Abdul Rahim), the political officer of the "Jamiyat Eslami" resistance group, said here. The "Jamiyat Eslami" is one of the seven Islamic groups which last year united to form the "Mujahidin Islamic Union" to fight the present Soviet-supported government of Kabul.

According to Rahim, since Mikhail Gorbachev came to power in the Soviet Union, there has been a military escalation in Afghanistan which includes the use of heavy artillery and high altitude bombing which "has no way to spare civilian targets."

"The Soviet Union", added Rahim, "has intensified its political-diplomatic pressure on non-aligned nations and those of the Islamic conference to withdraw or reduce their support of Afghani resistance." In particular, the resistance representative said that Moscow is putting pressure on Pakistan to discourage giving hospitality to Afghani refugees.

Commenting on the recent government shake-up in Kabul, Rahim said that it was just a "change of puppets" and a war tactic by Mosocw.

The "Jamiyat Eslami" political representative also called on the Italian Government not to be "fooled by Soviet propaganda" and not to believe the "signs" of an imminent Soviet withdrawal. "The fighting continues", affirmed Rahim, adding that after the recent capture of the strategic Zhawar stronghold, fighting has become particular bitter.

Reportage on General Parliamentary Elections

Election Official: 'Peaceful' Polling

BK071251 Dhaka Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Polling was held throughout Bangladesh today to elect a 300-member parliament. This was the third parliamentary election. Voting began at 0800 this morning and continued till 1700 in the afternoon Bangladesh Standard Time without any break. The voting took place smoothly.

Counting of votes began immediately after polls and unofficial results will start coming in about an hour from now. The Bangladesh election commission has made elaborate arrangements to announce the unofficial results.

The chief election commissioner, Mr Justice A.G.M. Masud, accompanied by other senior officials of the commission visited (?a few) polling centers of the Dhaka metropolitan area and outskirts of Dhaka city this morning. According to election commission sources, he found that the polling was peaceful in the centers he visited.

Sheikh Hasina Complains of 'Vandalism'

BK071226 Hong Kong AFP in English 1205 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Dhaka, May 7 (AFP) — An opposition leader, Sheikh Hasina Wajed, Wednesday said she may not be able to vote in the Bangladesh election because of a "complete reign of terror" by the government-backed Jatiya Party. "I have not been able to cast my vote yet, and I don't know if at all I will be able to vote today," she told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE 90 minutes before the polls were to close.

"It's robbery of ballots going on everywhere. The government-backed Jatiya Party musclemen have taken over many of the polling centres in the city," said Sheikh Hasina, chief of the Awami League which is the major contestant in the polls.

Reports of violence and irregularities in which Jatiya Party supporters had taken control of polling stations also were coming from different parts of the country, she said. Two AGENCE FRANCE PRESS correspondents were threatened at Bangshal Primary School polling station in the old section of Dhaka where Jatiya Party supporters were clearly in control. Local people told of how Jatiya followers had ejected some 25 opposition Awami League supporters after the voting began. The only man wearing a small Awami League badge was punched in the face several times outside the school and another man who was afraid left in the AFP car.

At a second polling staton in the same constituency police refused to allow foreign correspondents into the building. Local peopel said Jatiya Party strongmen had taken over the station, as they had done in nearby Malitola area. The constituency is being contested by Deputy Mayor of Dhaka Jahangir Mohammad Adel for the Jatiya Party and Sheikh Hasina Wajed, leader of the Awami League.

The deputy press secretary to President Hussain Mohammad Ershad, Abdul Awal, said he had been told the election was going peacefully and he could not comment on these incidents.

Reports reaching here from residents described violence and fraud in various areas. From the Sutrapur area, in the same constituency in old Dhaka, they said polling had been suspended at one station following a bid by Jatiya followers to take over the station.

Clashes between supporters of three candidates were reported from the Chittagong district in eastern Bangladesh. Some supporters were reportedly armed, but first reports did not mention casualties. And in Demra, an industrial town near Dhaka, a candidate reportedly was knifed.

Sheikh Hasina said she was not allowed to enter into a polling centre at Jagannath College in the old Dhaka area to observe the voting. She phoned Home Minister Major General Mahmudul Hasan and complained about the "vandalism waged by the Jatiya Party hooligans." The minister offered her security escorts to the polling centres, "which proves that the government admits disturbances," she said. She refused the offer. She demanded that polls be suspended in all centres where "vandalisms are being carried out by the Jatiya Party."

She said she had tried to reach President Ershad to complain "but the president was playing golf." He has failed to keep his promise to hold a free and fair election, she said. Her party also has complained to the election commission, she said.

The Awami League, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) which is boycotting the elections being held under martial law, and an independent election watchdog the People's Commission for Free Elections all expressed fears ahead of the polls of vote rigging and violence.

The polls are the first to be held for parliament in seven years.

14 Persons Killed

BK080218 Dhaka Domestic Service in Bengali 0100 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] In a press note issued in Dhaka last night the government said that the elections were held throughout the country with great enthusiasm. Polling was held peacefully in more than 23,000 centers. However, in a number of centers polling had to be suspended because of disturbances created by the supporters of rival candidates. The number of such centers where polling had to be suspended totaled 284 thus far.

As a result of clashes between rival groups, a number of persons were injured and 12 of them later succumbed to their injuries.

Police intervened at several places to restore order and had to open fire at some places to protect life and property. This resulted in the death of two persons in Narsingi District. Police made a number of arrests and seized some explosives, firearms and other lethal weapons from various places.

Jatiya Party Leading

BK080720 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0700 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] Complete unofficial results from 143 constituencies out of 300 have so far been received from the Election Commission. Of these Jatiya Party has won in 59 constituencies, Awami League in 44, Independents 14, Muslim League 3, Jami'at-i Islami 6, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal-Shahjahan 3, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal-Rob 1, Communist Party 3, Bangladesh National Awami Party 4, National Awami Party-Muzaffar 2, Workers Party 1, and Bangladesh Krishak Sramik Awami League 3.

AFP: Opposition Alliance Leading

BK081006 Hong Kong AFP in English 0955 GMT 8 May 86

[By Barry Parker]

[Text] Dhaka, May 8 (AFP) — A 15-party opposition alliance was narrowly ahead in the unofficial count Thursday of nearly half the seats in the Bangladesh general election amid further allegations of poll fraud.

Top opposition candidate Sheikh Hasina Wajed has alleged massive and murderous fraud in the parliamentary ballot Wednesday, allegations backed by a report from a British all-party parliamentary group published here Thursday. With unofficial results in for 144 of the 300-seat parliament the government-backed Jatiya Party had won 60 seats, just short of the opposiion Awami League alliance. Sheikh Hasina Wednesday accused the Jatiya of creating "a complete reign of terror" and killing 25 people and injuring 500 in widespread poll fraud and violence.

The British report led by former Labour Party Minister Lord Ennals and Conservative MP Martin Brandon-Bravo called the elections a "tragedy for democracy". The British said:""The principal offenders in rigging the elections were the Jatiya Party. They were responsible for turning what could and should have been an historic return to democracy in Bangladesh into a tragedy for democracy."

The damning document based on visits to 35 polling stations listed attacks on Awami League supporters, throwing of molotov cocktails, seizure of polling stations multiple voting, closure of polling centres and claims of 100 per turnout at some centres.

The two men, assisted by BBC freelance journalist David Lay based their findings on visits to polling stations in Dhaka, its surrounding areas and the Roazan constitutency, some 32 km (20 miles) north of the eastern port of Chittagong. They were invited to observe the elections by the only non-government watchdog body, the People's Commission for Free Elections, and were due to leave later Thursday. They were the only independent observers here and came in for criticism from the government for interfering. The People's Commission said it had invited other groups to observe, but had done so too late for them to come.

Meanwhile in the unofficial count, independent candidates had taken 14 seats. The fundamentalist Jami'at-i Islami party had seven and the Muslim League three. The Bangladesh Communist Party and the Bangladesh national Awami Party, both components of the left-leaning alliance, had four seats each. The seven-party alliance, led by the Bangladesh Nationalist Party [BNP] boycotted the vote because it was being held under martial law. Its leader, Begum Khaleda Zia is under house arrest.

Nearly 48 million of the country's 99.6 million people were called on to vote. The BNP said the turnout was less than 15 per cent. No figures had been released on the turnout by the government election commission.

Prime Minister on Relations With Pakistan
BK080339 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has said that the process of normalization in Indo-Pak relations has slowed down because of internal developments in Pakistan.

In an interview to a Cairo daily, *AL-AHRAM*, he said the two countries have chalked out a plan during President Ziaul Haq's visit to Delhi in December last, but unfortunately Pakistan has not wanted to move as fast as we desire. India, Mr Gandhi said, is willing to speed up the process whenever Pakistan wants. This was made clear on a number of occasions.

Asked about his proposed visit to Islamabad, the prime minister said the delay is not because of any specific issue. The necessary atmosphere has to be created for the visit. On Miss Benazir Bhutto he said that she has some positive views on relations with India.

Pakistan's Building of Airfields in Kashmir Protested
BK080915 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr B.R. Bhagat, assured the Rajya Sabha today that adequate security precautions have been taken in view of the construction of airfields by Pakistan in the occupied Jammu and Kashmir. He said during question hour that strong protest has been launched with the Pakistani Government for construction of airfields at Rawala Kot and Muzaffarabad. The minister said India's serious concern over the matter has been voiced in the recent talks with the leaders of that country.

Referring to a question of increased allocation by Pakistan on the defense of the occupied territory, the minister said India has taken up the matter with the Pakistani foreign minister. Pakistan's stand on the issue is unsteady.

Replying to another supplementary on the reported inspection of the newly constructed airfields by Chinese experts, Mr Bhagat said protest has also been lodged with the Chinese Government.

Mr Bhagat told the House that India has taken up with the Pakistani Government the issue of release of Indian prisoners in various jails of that country. Replying to a question, he said that till August last, 850 Indians were in Pakistani jails. According to a list prepared by that country, the number of such Indians was 344. Of these, 130 were convicted and the rest were under trial. According to the latest information, 63 Indians were released from jails in February this year.

External Affairs Minister Declines UNHCR Assistance
BK071301 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] India has declined to accept the assistance offered by the UN High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] for the people from Sri Lank and Afghanistan who have taken shelter in this country. This was disclosed by the external affairs minister in the Lok Sabha today.

Replying to a question, he said India did not agree to a proposal of the UNHCR to set up a branch office in the country. However, the government has permitted a representative of the UNHCR to function as part of the UNDP in New Delhi.

Bangladesh Contacted Over Refugees in Tripura
BK070324 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] India has taken up with the Bangladesh Government the influx of (Chagma) refugees from Chittagong hill tracts into Tripura. The state chief secretary, Dr A. Roy, told our Agartala correspondent that the BSF [Border Security Force] requested the Bangladesh Rifles [BDR] twice for a flag meeting. But the BDR did not turn up for such a meeting. The Bangladesh rifles has also not responded so far to the proposal of another such meeting. The (Chagma) refugees have been camping in (?Sadrum) subdivision in South Tripura District.

Official Spokesman Condemns Sri Lanka Bomb Blast
BK071539 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1429 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Briefing newsmen on 7 May 1986 official spokesman made following statement with reference to bomb blast in Colombo at central telegraph office on 7 May 1986:

"We have learnt with deep sorrow and profound concern about tragic loss of lives and injuries to innocent persons in bomb explosion in central telegraph office building in Colombo this morning. India has consistently opposed all forms of violence and terrorism and urged need for an urgent and peaceful political solution to ethnic issue in Sri Lanka. We therefore strongly condemn this act of terrorism which took place in central telegraph office building in Colombo and has resulted in loss of lives and injuries to innocent persons."

Madras Office of Tamil Group Overrun by Rival Faction
BK080939 Hong Kong AFP in English 0928 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] Madras, India, May 8 (AFP) — A top Sri Lankan Tamil separatist group suffered its second major blow in a week on Thursday when a rival faction stormed its headquarters here in a pre-dawn raid, police and local residents said. The Madras office of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization (TELO), the oldest Tamil separatist group, was overrun by guerrillas from the rival Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), eyewitnesses said.

On Tuesday, TELO leader Siri Sabaratinam was shot to death by LTTE members in Sri Lanka. "They (TELO) are finished. Their leader is dead and they are now evicted from their office," one Sri Lankan Tamil source said.

A resident of the area where Thursday's clash took place told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that he heard gunshots and fighting, but did not know if there had been any casualties. "There were 20 to 22 TELO guerrillas inside the office," a Sri Lankan Tamil source said.

Madras police chief Walter Dewaram said he was investigating the attack on the TELO office at Saligraman, a populated area in downtown Madras.

Clashes between the two groups erupted in Sri Lanka last week and as many as 250 TELO members have been reported killed in LTTE attacks on 16 TELO hideouts.

Sri Lankan Tamil sources in Madras said that LTTE leader V. Pirabhakaram had vowed to evict the rival faction from its office here following the death of the TELO leader.

Area analysts here said that the virtual eclipse of the TELO, founded in 1973, has left the LTTE as the most powerful among 23 separate Tamil grops seeking to establish a Tamil state in northern and eastern Sri Lanka.

6 Killed, 1 Injured in Punjab 'Terrorists' Attack

BK071308 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] In Punjab six persons were killed and one injured when a car-borne group of terrorists struck at two places in Gandhaval area of Amritsar District this afternoon.

The terrorists stopped a private bus near village Bhutiya and opened fire at the passengers. Four persons were killed and one injured. The bus was on its way from Gandhaval Saheb to Amritsar via Tarn Taran.

The terrorists later struck at Gandhaval Saheb and killed two persons before fleeing. Senior police officials have rushed to the spot. A massive hunt is on.

Reportage on Official Visit of ANC Leader Tambo

Arrives 6 May

BK070420 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] The president of the African National Congress [ANC], Mr Oliver Tambo, arrived in New Delhi last night on an official visit to India. He was received at the airport, among others, by the secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, Dr Teja.

Mr Tambo told AIR [All India Radio] correspondent that his visit comes at an opportune time before the next nonaligned summit which will take place in [words indistinct]. He said that liberation movements in the African region need support from India.

During his stay in the capital, Mr Tambo will have talks with the president, the vice president, the prime minister, and the minister for external affairs. Mr Tambo will also discuss with the Indian leaders the situation in South Africa. Jawahar Lal Nehru University will confer an honorary degree on Mr Tambo. Before his departure on Saturday [10 May] he will also have a meeting with the heads of the African missions.

Meets With President, Others

BK071637 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] The African National Congress president, Mr Oliver Tambo, called on the president, Giani Zail Singh, at Rashtrapati Bhavan [President House] today. During the 1/2-hour meeting, they discussed the situation in southern Africa. Earlier, Dr Tambo visited Rajghat, Nehru Museum and the Indira Gandhi Memorial. Mr Tambo also called on the vice president, Mr Venkataraman. In the evening, he had discussions with the external affairs minister, Mr Bhagat. He apprised Mr Bhagat of the latest developments in South Africa and the strategy adopted by the Frontline States in their struggle to end apartheid.

Bhutto Denies Charges of Receiving Foreign Funds

BK071254 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] The Pakistan Peoples Party [PPP] leader, Miss Benazir Bhutto, has refuted General Ziaul Haq's allegation that her party is receiving money from abroad. She said that the PPP does not need any assistance from abroad as the people of Pakistan are the strength of the party. She was addressing a press conference in Quetta. Miss Benazir alleged that Gen Zia, in fact, is in need of foreign assistance to perpetuate his rule.

Junejo States Democratic Process Cannot Be Disrupted

BK080521 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 May 86

[Excerpt] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, has declared that the democratic process has started in the country and he will not allow it to be disrupted. Addressing a huge public meeting in Khairpur this evening, he said there is absolutely no justification for demanding fresh elections when the nation has already chosen its representatives to run the affairs of the country. He said the performance of the elected representatives during the last 1 year is before the people.

Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo said ever since he had taken over the prime ministership he has been striving to strengthen democracy. The nation has fully supported him and reposed full confidence in him. It is this confidence that prompted him to lift emergency and give lawful freedom to the political parties to project their points of view.

The prime minister regretted that instead of enlightening the people about their manifestos, some people have started raising irrelevant and unjustifiable issues. He said he had great faith in the wisdom of the people who can distinguish between right and wrong. He said they also know how much the country has suffered in its quest for true democracy. They have not forgotten that the so-called democracy which was given to them in the past was tampered with through the enforcement of emergency. The prime minister said he would like to ask those who are demanding fresh elections as to where they were when the nation was electing their representatives. He said the elected representatives have a mandate from the people and they have the right to lead the country until the next elections to be held on schedule. He said the people are fully conscious of their rights and duties. In the past they rejected the rigged election and had thrown out those who played fraud with them. He said meetings and processions will not mislead them.

Prime Minister Discusses DRA, Kashmir, Martial Law

BK071547 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 7 May 86

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo inaugurated the broadcasting house of the Khairpur station of Radio Pakistan this morning. Speaking on the occasion, the prime minister said the Radio Pakistan has the important responsibility of providing correct information about Pakistan to people both inside and outside the country. It should give a proper and effective reply to propaganda directed toward the country and keep its audience informed of the national and international situation.

Earlier, talking to newsmen on arrival in Sukkur, the prime minister said there has been no change in Pakistan's stand on Afghanistan and the current Geneva talks are being held on the basis of Pakistan's original stance. He said the time for direct negotiations has not yet arrived.

n rely to a question, the prime minister said the whole world is fully aware of Pakistan's stand on the Kashmir issue and we will in no way deviate from this stand. He said Pakistan's nuclear program is solely for peaceful purposes.

Answering another question, the prime minister said he does not see any circumstances that would necessitate another martial law situation in the country.

Further Reportage on 'Indirect' Geneva Talks

3d Day of Talks

BK071737 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] The seventh round of indirect proximity talks on the future of Afghanistan between Pakistan and the Soviet-backed regime in Kabul continued for the 3d day in Geneva today. The process of studying and assimilating various aspects of the fourth instrument of the package settlement, which began last evening, continued at this morning's session of the indirect proximity talks.

The two sides, led by Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan and Kabul's foreign minister, Mr Shah Mohammad Dost, are now reacting to each other's interpretation of various elements of the instrument with the UN secretary general's personal representative, Mr Cordovez, shuttling to and forth in a bid to delineate the structure of a comprehensive agreement.

A spokesman of the Pakistan delegation told ASSOCIATED PRESS OF PAKISTAN after this morning's session that the negotiations had reached a crucial phase ever since the paragraph study of the fourth instrument began yesterday evening. The spokesman said it is obvious that progress at the talks would have to be carefully measured because it would involve a microscopic appraisal of various elements and their interrelationship.

Meanwhile, the Pakistan delegation is continuing an indepth study of the fresh draft of the fourth instrument prepared by the UN secretary general's personal representative on Afghanistan in the light of the discussions he held in Islamabad and Kabul during his visit last month.

NEPAL

Spokesman Discusses Arrests of 'Terrorists'

BK071646 Katmandu External Service in English 1415 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] A spokesman of the Home Ministry has provided information further to its communique of 6 May 1986 on the arrest of terrorists of Ram Raja Prasad gang sent to create terror in certain parts of the country. According to the ministry, when, on the 4th May, a certain Chandradev Thakur was searched on suspicion at the Belahitli check post in the area bordering Urugundi District, a 9-mm pistol with bullets, explosives, and explosive devices were recovered from him. The same day, a Triban Dhakal was arrested at Bhairawa and a certain Tikendra Vishwakarma in Katmandu, both with explosives in their possession. Another person, a certain Haridev Oni, was caught yesterday, 6th May, and was found to have pamphlets printed in the name of the so-called Janwadi Morcha [Popular Front] apparently directed by the terrorist Ram Raja Prasad Singh. Investigations will be continued. Also yesterday evening, a man, (Paban Saha Suri) by name, escaped arrest at (Rani) customs office while trying to enter Biratnagar and fled [words indistinct] leaving explosives behind.

From the heinous crimes attempted today, the involvement of the murderous Ram Raja Prasad gang in anti-national acts of destruction and terror is apparent. A minority of misguided elements come within the the country from outside [words indistinct] to disrupt the general elections scheduled for 12th May. The spokesman of the Home Ministry has expressed confidence, however, that the Nepali people will, by exercising their right of franchise democratically, defeat this nefarious design. The Nepali people know well these elements who talk big about democracy but act otherwise, the spokesman added. The spokesman of the Home Ministry has said that the law-and-order situaiton all over the country is normal and peaceful. In this context, citizens of the country are asked to extend cooperation by reporting any [words indistinct] activity to the nearest police station.

Two Bombs Explode in Southern City; No Casualties

BK081012 Hong Kong AFP in English 1003 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] Katmandu, May 8 (AFP) — Two powerful bombs set by suspected Nepalese opposed to Monday's election exploded in the southern city of Birganj early Thursday, an official source said. No injuries were reported. The bombs went off near the Birganj customs office and a city building sometime after midnight, the source said, adding that no one was in the buildings at the time of the explosions. Birganj, 180 kilometers (100 miles) southeast of Katmandu, is an important trade centre bordering the northern Indian railway city of Raxaul.

One person suspected to be among anti-election militants connected with the incident was arrested at Kakarbhita, 390 km (244 miles) southeast of Katmandu, with a sizable number of powerful explosives, the source told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE. Two others were traced to Birganj and Jogbani (Biratnagar) but fled, the source said. They are thought to be opposed to the country's partyless government system and are trying to keep citizens from going to the polls Monday to vote for the national Panchayat (legislature).

The official English daily, *THE RISING NEPAL*, and vernacular dailies on Thursday published the photographs of five alleged militants arrested between Sunday and Tuesday carrying explosives and anti-Panchayat leaflets bearing the name of Jana Morcha (People's Front). The Jana Morcha is opposed to the single-party system of government and claimed responsibility for bomb attacks last June 20 in Katmandu and other parts of Nepal that killed at least eight people and injured 22. The newspaper said that several of the arrests were made in the capital city of Katmandu, and that two people escaped from authorities. The men are being interrogated by the special security branch, and are believed to have revealed that 16 militants with powerful bombs had entered into Nepal from India, *THE RISING NEPAL* said. The militants had been instructed to carry out bombings by their leader, identified as Ram Raja Prasad Singh, who is currently in India running militant training camps along the India-Nepal border, *THE RISING NEPAL* said.

A Home Ministry spokesman confirmed the arrests and said a small group of "misguided elements" was seeking to distrupt the elections but that the law and order situation was "normal and peaceful." More than 60 percent of the 9.03 million voters are expected to vote for 112 representives to the national Panchayat. The government has taken stringent security measures in all public places, particularly airports and highways, ahead of the poll.

The movement of people and vehicular traffic at night is being checked in an apparent bid to check the mobility of militants thought to be in hiding with explosives awaiting election day. Officials have given no exact figure on arrests of suspected saboteurs but reliable sources said more than 40 had been taken in custody.

Some candidates have attacked the 25-year old Panchayat system and its economic failure, and sources said a pro-Soviet candidate, Krishna Prasad Bhandari, and a veteran politician, Tanka Nath Pokharel, were arrested by the Katmandu local administration Wednesday for "misleading and derogatory speeches." Mr. Bhandari was released.

SRI LANKA

Colombo Reports 1 Arrested in Connection With Blast

BK071110 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Eight people have been killed and more than a hundred injured in a bomb explosion which rocked the central telegraph office complex in Colombo this morning. Among the dead are two women. Our correspondent, who was on the spot, reported that the explosion must have taken place exactly at 0923, as all clocks in the building had stopped at that tragic moment. The ground floor, which houses the telex office, was a mass of rubble and mangled iron as the upper floor had collapsed. The front

section of the building was also badly damaged. The Air Force went into immediate action to clear the rubble as many were feared to be trapped beneath it. The assistant secretary in the Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications, P.T. Wilson, who was at the scene when the incident occurred, said that he had heard a tremendous blast followed by screaming and shouting between 0920 and 0925. The injured were rushed to the accident service of the General Hospital, Colombo. More than 100 injured were taken to hospital within 45 minutes of the blast. The serious cases were operated on immediately.

The Army and the police are helping in relief operations and in putting out the fire that resulted from the blast. The minister of posts and telecommunications D.B. Wijetunga has visited the scene of the tragedy. No damage has been caused to the overseas telecommunications service or the central telephone exchange. Only the internal telegram system has been affected.

The situation in Colombo is now calm and traffic is operating as usual. Meanwhile, reports received this afternoon say that one person has been taken into custody in connection with the incident.

London Caller Claims Responsibility

BK080318 Hong Kong AFP in English 0252 GMT 8 May 86

[Excerpt] London, May 8 (AFP) — A caller claiming to represent Janata Vimukthi Peramuna, a banned Sri Lankan leftist group, claimed responsibility here Wednesday for a bomb attack on a government building in Colombo in which 11 people died and about 100 were injured.

The caller, who said he was a political refugee and activist named R.S. Perera, said his group, whose name means people's liberation front, had carried out the attack "because we have not had elections for the past nine years."

He said he had lived in Britain for 15 years and his group had no links with Tamil separatists.

TULF Leader Reportedly Lauds Air Lanka Plane Blast

BK071121 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Leader of the Tamil United Liberation Front A. Amirthalingam has approved the terrorist destruction of the Air Lanka Tristar jet at the Colombo international airport on Saturday [3 May] in which 15 passengers were killed.

In a statement made in Madras to the Swedish newspaper, *DAGENS NYHETER*, Mr Amirthalingam warned tourists not to travel to Sri Lanka. He said that further bomb attacks cannot be ruled out and that the destruction of the aircraft can be the beginning of a bitter offensive against the Sri Lanka's tourist industry. The warning came only a few hours after the blasting of the aircraft at the Colombo international airport.

Khamene'i Addresses Mobilization Rally

LD081223 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] The president of the republic and chairman of the Supreme Defense Council spoke at a rally of more than 3,000 Shi'ite and Sunnite warrior tribesmen from Bakhtaran, Lorestan, Sistan va Baluchestan, Chahar Mahall o Bakhtiari, Semnan, Fars and Khorasan Provinces who were leaving for the battlefronts.

He emphasized that we will not tolerate the Iraqi regime's acts of malignant acts of aggression. If Iraq resorts to launching attacks on the cities and population centers we will deal it such a blow that it will again regret its malignant deeds.

According to a report by a Central News Unit correspondent, during the rally attended by tribesmen from the Reconstruction Jihad Headquarters stationed on the fronts and convened at Martyr Motahhari Headquarters, the president of the republic said that unity among Muslims, their conviction, and faith constitute the fundamental differences between Muslim and other forces. The might of the Islamic Republic depends on human beings and their dedication to Islam. Although we possess sufficient modern weapons and equipment, nevertheless the main factor in utilizing weaponry at the appropriate place and without fear from the enemy is a believing human being. This is the secret of the victory of Islam's forces.

The chairman of the Supreme Defense Council added that once Al-Faw was liberated, the reactionary regimes in the region lost heart in Iraq, since Iraq itself declared that Al-Faw's retrieval was extremely difficult.

Prior to the president's speech, the supervisor of the mobilization of the oppressed of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps, emphasized the extraordinary role played by more than 2.5 million nomadic and semi-nomadic tribesmen on the fronts and battlefields. He said that so far, more than 80 districts and 300 resistance bases have been set up among the country's tribes and the warrior tribesmen will leave for the battlefronts, within the framework of five divisions, after participating in Tehran's Friday prayers ceremonies.

Khamene'i Says Press Freedom 'No Problem'

LD071018 Tehran IRNA in English 0728 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 7, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i here Tuesday stressed importance of the press and called for greater investment in this field. Speaking to a group on staff of the "Resalat [Message] Foundation", publisher of the *RESALAT* evening daily, said that it would not be right to claim that at present the country's newspapers were in the ideal status.

Ayatollah Ahmad Azari Qomi reporting to the president on the objectives behind formation of the Foundation and publishing of the paper, said that *RESALAT* had no intention of encountering the government and the others. Rather, said the ayatollah, it worked on the basis of the Islamic principles and jurisprudence.

President Khamane'i said that publishers of the newspapers must enjoy total trust of the people from the Islamic point of view, work ethics, and political virtue. There is no problem in having several newpapers with different political outlook he told the visiting publishers. However, he pointed out, there must be no destructive intentions.

Majlis Speaker Warns IRGC Officials of 'Plots'

LD071401 Tehran IRNA in English 1250 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 7, IRNA — Information officials of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) met with Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani here Tuesday afternoon.

During the meeting Rafsanjani warned the IRGC information officials to beware of the plots of the enemies of the Islamic Revolution.

He referred to the access of the world to the most complicated espionage devices and urged IRGC information officials to become acquainted with those instruments to thwart plots of the enemies.

In another meeting the Majlis speaker said here Wednesday that military training for women and theologians was a good proof to the evolution created by the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran.

Rafsanjani, who is also Imam Khomeyni's representative to the Supreme Defence Council, was speaking at Imam 'Ali Garrison where joint morning ceremony of the Basij theologian members as well as male and female military trainers was held.

Velayati Briefs Majlis Speaker on Recent Tour

LD070826 Tehran IRNA in English 0735 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 7, IRNA — Minister of Foreign Affairs 'Ali Akbar Velayati reported outcome of his recent visit to Libya and Syria to Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here Tuesday. Velayati also briefed the Majlis speaker on his talks with the Libyan leader Colonel Muammar al-Qadhdhafi and other high-ranking Libyan officials, on the recent U.S. air strike against Libya. He also discussed his meetings with Syrian officials and the result of his talks with Muslim combatant Lebanese groups.

Tokyo Summit Statement Condemning Libya Rejected

LD071849 Tehran IRNA in English 1145 GMT 7 Mar 86

[Text] Tehran, May 7, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i presided over a session of the cabinet ministers which was also attended by Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani here Wednesday.

The session reviewed latest domestic and international developments and listened to Foreign Minister Velayati's report on international reactions towards the recent U.S. attack on Libya

and the Tokyo summit of seven major industrialized countries, as well as a report by Oil Minister Aqazadeh's on oil production and exports.

Cabinet ministers reiterated Iran's support for the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and stressed cooperation with producers who sustained losses due to recent price cuts.

Speaking after the session, Prime Minister Hoseyn-Musavi told reporters that economic independence and non-reliance on oil revenues were the main issues discussed in the meeting. referring to the massive presence of the people in the war fronts, the prime minister said this proved the Islamic Republic's strong position.

On the Tokyo summit and its condemnation of Libya, Prime Minister Musavi said that the stance taken by the summit was rather an indication of their weakness. "These decisions were very weak compared to the strong determination of the people." He said that the Islamic Republic had repeatedly announced that if terrorism was to be defined in its real sense, the U.S. would stand on the top of the list of international terrorists.

Agriculture Minister Comments on Bulgarian Visit

GF020817 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Agriculture Minister Zali returned to Tehran last evening following the conclusion of his visit to Bulgaria. Upon his arrival in Tehran, the agriculture minister detailed the results of his visit to Bulgaria in an interview with our correspondent:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent] Dr Zali, Could you please tell us of the issues discussed at the joint Iran-Bulgaria sessions and what the details of the accord signed were?
[Zali] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. This was the third joint session between the two countries. Such sessions alternately convene in each country. During the latest session, areas for greater and more specific cooperation were explored, especially those areas in which we can expand our cooperation on various levels. Similarly, it was an opportunity to meet the Bulgarian president, to whom we conveyed the message of the esteemed president of the Islamic Republic of Iran. We met the premier, the agriculture minister, the transportation minister, and commerce minister, as well as the deputy premier of Bulgaria. Various fields for expanding cooperation between the two countries were discussed.

During the meeting between our colleagues and officials and experts of the Bulgarian People's Republic, all issues pertaining to agriculture, industry, and commerce were specifically reviewed. The results are reflected in the accord signed between us and the Bulgarian minister.

In the field of agriculture it was specified that we can provide cooperation in training. In agricultural industries and dairy production collaboration will be expanded. Our Brother Mr Sazgarnezhad, who is in charge of the rural cooperative organization, held talks with the rural cooperative organization of the Bulgarian People's Republic concerning the exchange and export of agricultural products and the possibility of selling these products to other countries, and cooperation in the cultivation of certain plants, such as mushrooms.

Concerning industry, a salient point examined was that the two countries should cooperate according to the present capacity of the factories. They should benefit from each other in greater production and in exporting industrial products — whether to Bulgaria or other countries — especially products from our factories, such as the Khodro factory, or other products to Bulgaria.

In the technical fields, Bulgaria can cooperate with our industries and it was listed in this agreement. In commerce, it was decided after discussions that the two countries can increase the level of exchange of commodities in many fields, whether in relation to new or established commodities.

It was also specified that against our imports from Bulgaria, a minimum of 20 percent in non-oil exports must be transferred to Bulgaria. The level of exchange should be approximately $400 million. In view of the favorable conditions that exist for such exchanges between the governments of the two countries, we hope that this ceiling will be reached in an ideal manner.

Concerning the sale of oil, we have decided that Bulgaria will purchase 1.5 millions tons of oil, against which we will import other goods from Bulgaria. We will export goods to that country against industrial and agricultural products and mineral products such as concentrate, zinc, copper, and other items on a quid pro quo basis specified for export to that country.

On the whole, the results of the sessions and the agreement signed between the two countries was approved by the two sides. [end recording]

Heavy Flooding Destroys Ahvaz Grain Harvest

GF081412 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] Following a rise in the water level in the Dez and Karun Rivers, some 20 villages in the Ahvaz environs have so far been completely encircled by water. According to a report by our correspondent, the water is also threatening some 11 villages around the Karkheh River. These villages are 'Alavaneye-Za'ib, Tondiheh, Albo'aqid One and Two, Albu Morabba', 'Onayyesh One and Two, Alhudeh, Martyr Fallahi, Jonabeleh, and Balbukharmoush. In addition, villages on the Kut-e 'Abdollah-Khorramshahr axis and those of Hamidiyeh are seriously threatened by rising waters.

The report adds that irrespective of various measures such as flood dams created in the past few days, the water has destroyed villagers' homes and has cut off many access roads. It has also destroyed crops in the area. Considering that now is the time for grain harvest in the region, the major portion of the damage has been to such products. Karun and Haft Tappeh farms have also suffered damages but their value has not yet been calculated. The villages of Darichiyeh, Mohayyeq, Buran, Amiyan, 'Ammashiyeh, Abu Dabeq, Esma'iliyeh, greater and lesser Zaviyeh, and Hoveyseh are completely surrounded by water in Kut-e 'Abdol-

lah region, while in Khorramshahr region, Chalibiyeh, Kobaileh, Maktu, Malihan, Maktar, Bayyut, and Sabhe are completely encircled by water.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Five Killed in Iraqi Raid 7 May

LD071644 Tehran IRNA in English 1625 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 7, IRNA — According to latest reports from several hospitals of Tehran five people were martyred and a number of others were wounded in an Iraqi air raid on an oil installation in southern Tehran Wednesday. A hospital official said ten wounded people had been admitted to his hospital but the exact number of the wounded was not known. Most of the injured received minor treatment and left the hospitals. The damage inflicted on the oil installation was said to be slight and technicians were trying hard to repair the damage as soon as possible.

Communique No 2,463

LD071708 Tehran IRNA in English 1651 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 7, IRNA — Intruding Iraqi war planes bombed an oil installation in Tehran at 11:15 hours (07:45 hours GMT) Wednesday martyring some civilians and wounding a number of others, according to a military communique. The Joint Staff Communique number 2463 says that three Iranian civilians were martyred and 18 others wounded when Iraqi war planes bombarded the city of Marivan, Kurdestan Province, at 10:30 hours (07:00 hours GMT) Wednesday. The raid came after another Iraqi air attack on the city on Tuesday in which five people were martyred and six others wounded.

The cities of Khoy (in W. Azarbayjan Pro.) and Baneh in Kurdestan were also attacked by Iraqi planes Wednesday morning wounding two people.

In the northwestern fronts, the communique says, heavy artillery fire of Iranian Muslim combatants pounded Iraqi positions, destroying several Iraqi vehicles and setting fire to two enemy military bases. The bases sustained heavy losses.

In Panjwin, Iranian ground and surface-to-surface fire prevented movements of Iraqi tanks and thwarted reconnaissance flights of enemy helicopters.

Heavy artillery duels were reported in Mehran and Sumar in Ilam and Bakhtaran border fronts Tuesday, says the communique, adding that in Mehran an Iraqi patrol unit was reconnoitered and shelled by Iranian combatants. The enemy patrols sustained casualties and were forced to flee.

Muslim forces of Iran opened fire on an Iraqi motorized unit in Sumar halting its operation and inflicting casualties and losses on it, according to the communique.

In the southern fronts, the communique says, Iranian forces responded to Iraqi artillery fire inflicting substantial casualties and damage on them and halting their transport and reinforcement operations.

Iranian artillery fire pounded an Iraqi concentration center of vehicles and motorized units in Nahr-Anbar disrupting enemy engineering operations. It also hit Iraqi armoured units and trucks in Faqqeh and Chazzabeh, says the communique. In Jofeyr, the communique says, Iraqi patrol boats were shelled by Iranian patrol units. Surface-to-air fire of Iranian Muslims forced some Iraqi war planes trying to violate the airspace of many Iranian cities Tuesday to flee, says the communique. Meanwhile Iraqi forces continued shelling the city of Abadan on Tuesday.

Second Iraqi Attack Repelled

LD071709 Tehran IRNA in English 1704 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 7, IRNA — Intruding Iraqi planes attempted to violate the airspace of the Iranian capital for a second time Wednesday but were forced to flee by anti-aircraft fire of the Islamic combatants. The attempt was made at 15:27 hours local time [11:57 GMT]. Iraqi planes Wednesday morning attacked an Iranian oil installation in southern Tehran and slightly damaged it. Five people were martyred and a number of others were wounded in the attack.

Attack on Iraqi Post

GF071412 Ahvaz Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] The courageous members of the Islamic Revolution Guards' Naval Corps stationed in the "Val-Fajr-8" operational sector carried out a combat patrol mission last night. It attacked an observation post of the Ba'thist-Zionist Iraqi armed forces. All of the enemy's forces in the area were completely routed.

Iraqi Economic Targets Shelled

LD071800 Tehran IRNA in English 1753 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 7, IRNA — Long range artillery fire of Muslim forces of Iran heavily shelled Iraq's Al-Haritha power station (in north of Basra) and Zubayr oil installations in southern part of the country Wednesday. According to Khatam ol-Anbiya' joint headquarters of the army and the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps these two Iraqi economic centers have sustained heavy damage.

Communique No 2,464

LD081549 Tehran IRNA in English 1531 GMT 8 May 86

[Text] Tehran, May 8, IRNA — An invading Iraqi warplane was shot down by anti-aircraft units of Iranian Muslim combatants in the Persian Gulf at 11:30 hours (08:00 hours GMT) Thursday, according to a military communique released here Thursday.

The joint Staff Communique Number 2464 says that the exchange of artillery fire continued in the northwestern fronts

Wednesday as a result of which Iraqi troops sustained heavy casualties and losses.

An estimated 40 Iraqi soldiers trying to infiltrate Iranian positions in Khorramshahr were forced to flee while leaving some dead Iraqi soldiers on the shores when Iranian combatants shelled them, the communique says. Iranian artillery fire, the communique says, pounded a group of 50 Iraqi troops who tried to penetrate Iranian positions. The Iraqi troops sustained casualties and were forced to flee. The communique says that artillery fire of Muslim forces of Iran halted movements of Iraqi vehicles in Al-Sulaymaniyah, Mandali and Qasr-e Shirin.

A number of Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and five bunkers and observation posts of theirs destroyed during artillery duels with Iranian forces in the western fronts, the communique says.

In the southern fronts, the communique says, during artillery duels with Iraqi troops raging more heavily in Majnun Islands, Zobeyd Road and Nahr-e Arayez, Iranian Muslim forces maintained their fire superiority.

Movements of Iraqi tanks in Chazabeh and Yebis, both in the southern fronts, were checked by Iranian artillery fire, says the communique. It added that Iranian gendarmerie forces halted Iraqi engineering operations and inflicted casualties and damage on them.

Meanwhile, due to Iraqi long range artillery fire on Abadan in Khuzestan Province some houses and shops were damaged and one case of fire broke out which was immediately extinguished by Iranian fire fighters.

Tehran Reports Iraqi Colonel Executed After Defeat

LD071423 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 7 May 86

[Text] Following the defeat suffered by the Iraqi forces in the "Val-Fajr-9" operational sector, a high-ranking Iraqi officer was summoned to Baghad and was executed by a firing squad. According to a report of the Central News Unit, the body of Colonel Rashid Salah, who was from Halabjah, was found in Kirkuk several days after his execution and there were 50 bullet holes in the body.

The report of the Central News Unit indicates that Col Rashid Salah, who had received four bravery medals from Saddam and had been promoted to the honorary rank of colonel, played an active role in the arrest, battering and torture of the Iraqi Muslim Kurds.